



Department of State

TELEGRAM

~~SECRET~~ 323

PAGE 01 STATE 272817

81

ORIGIN SS 30

INFO SSO 00, NSCE 00, CCO 00, FILE 02, /032 R

DRAFTED BY: INR/RAF:BERRY/IRONS:RSE:ZIMMERMAN

APPROVED BY: INR/RAF:OLIVER L. TROXEL JR

INR/RSE:SONNENFELDT

EUR:MR. PUHAN

INR/REUC:DISCIULLO (SUB)

INR/OD:RKGEMAN

S/S:MR. KELLY

EUR:MR. GEBELT

P 272817Z NOV 68 ZFF5

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO

~~SECRET~~ STATE 272817

EXDIS TOSEC 66

FOR LEDDY FROM HUGHES

REF: USNATO 5823

1. SOVIETS GIVE PORTUGUESE GUINEA REBELS ARMS AND OTHER COMBAT MATERIAL DIRECTLY AND THROUGH CUBA, ALGERIA AND GUINEA. THIS ASSESSMENT BASED ON SIGHTINGS OF EQUIPMENT BEING UNLOADED CONAKRY AND EVIDENCE OF APPEARANCE SOVIET WEAPONS IN HANDS OF REBELS IN PORTUGUESE GUINEA. HOWEVER, WE HAVE NO RPT NO EVIDENCE THAT EITHER SOVIETS OR REBELS HAVE EVER MENTIONED EVENTUAL SOVIET NAVAL AND AIR BASE IN THE CAPE VERDE ISLANDS. WE BELIEVE SOVIETS SEE ESTABLISHMENT OF REVOLUTIONARY REGIME FRIENDLY TO THEM AS SUFFICIENT REASON FOR AIDING REBELS. WE HAVE NO RPT NO EVIDENCE AT THIS TIME TO SUPPORT PORTUGUESE ALLEGATION THAT SOVIET MOTIVE IS ESTABLISHMENT SOME SORT OF BASE FACILITIES. MOREOVER, REBEL VICTORY ON MAINLAND, WHICH DOES NOT APPEAR IMMINENT, WOULD NOT NECESSARILY THREATEN PORTUGUESE CONTROL OF CAPE VERDES.

~~SECRET~~

NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

EXDIS
EXDIS
EXDIS
EXDIS

02

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6
NLJ 01-279
By is, NARA, Date 1-3-03

034947